

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ACCRA 07035 231635Z

41

ACTION PPT-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-03 DHA-02 SCA-01 H-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FBIE-00 SY-05 VO-03 /036 W

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R 231530Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO AMEMBASSY LOME

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4500

S E C R E T ACCRA 7035

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, CPRS, GH

SUBJ: DEPORTATION OF US CITIZEN JOSEPH VASQUEZ

REF: LOME 2480 (NOTAL)

1. LAWYERS REPRESENTING VASQUEZ CONTACTED EMBASSY RECENTLY WITH SAME STORY OUTLINED REFTEL -- THAT VASQUEZ DEPORTED FROM GHANA JULY 31 AS RESULT OF MACHINATIONS BY HIS PARTNER WHO COVETED CASINO/RESTAURANT

AND OTHER PROPERTIES. LAWYERS SOUGHT EMBASSY INTERVENTION WITH GOG EITHER TO HAVE DEPORTATION ORDER CANCELLED OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES VASQUEZ WOULD BE COMPENSATED.

2. WE HAVE NOTHING ON VASQUEZ HIMSELF IN OUR FILES BUT INFO ON HIS FATHER INDICATES VASQUEZ SR., WHO MAY NOW BE IN LOME, HAS BEEN ARRESTED ABOUT 17 TIMES SINCE THE MID-1920'S ON GAMBLING AND OTHER CHARGES. VASQUEZ JR. MAY BE LIKE DRIVEN SNOW BUT WE LEERY OF GOING TO BAT FOR HIM UNTIL (A) GOG REVIEWS CASE, (B) LEGAL REMEDIES ARE EXHAUSTED AND (C) MORE INFO ON HIS PAST ACTIVITIES COMES TO LIGHT. AS GENERAL POLICY, EMBASSY WOULD NOT INTERVENE FOR ANY US CIT IN SIMILAR CASE UNTIL (B) ABOVE WAS COMPLETED. FACT THAT VASQUEZ HAS LEGAL COUNSEL SUGGESTS TO US WE PRESENTLY HAVE NO GROUNDS FOR INTERVENING ON HIS BEHALF.

3. INFORMAL CONFIDENTIAL INQUIRY TOGOG BY EMBOFF DID NOT TURN UP REASON FOR DEPORTATION. IT CONCEIVABLE THAT HIGH LEVEL GOG

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ACCRA 07035 231635Z

OFFICIALS MAY HAVE OUSTED VASQUEZ TO GET A SHARE OF HIS WORLDLY

GOODS, IN COLLUSION WITH PARTNER. HOWEVER, IT ALSO POSSIBLE
VASQUEZ MAY HAVE VIOLATED GHANAIAI LAW OR THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN
PAYING OFF RIGHT PEOPLE. IN AY CASE, WE KNOW THQT GOG HAS
RECEIVED PETITION FROM VASQUEZ, AND THAT GOG AWARE HE HAS
CONTACTED AMEMBASSY LOME AND THAT GHANAIAI AMB. TO TOGO IS TAKING
HIS SIDE.

4. SUGGEST YOU TELL VASQUEZ ONLY THAT:

(A) GOG IS CONSIDERING HIS PETITION.

(B) WE DO NOT KNOW REASON FOR HIS DEPORATION.

(C) HIS LAWYERS HAVE CONTACTED US AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO
HEARING HOW CASE IS PROGRESSING.

(D) WE HAVE NO GROUNDS AT THIS TIME FOR INTERVENING ON HIS
BEHALF WITH GOG SINCE THERE PRESENTLY NO EVIDENCE HIS
CASE NOT RECEIVING FAIR HEARING UNDER GHANAIAI LAW.

5. ALSO SUGGEST YOU GET BIODATA ON VASQUEZ AND ASK DEPARTMENT
TO RUN NAME CHECK ON HIM.

LINEHAN

NOTE BY OC/T: REFTTEL NOT IN DEPARTMENT.

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NNN

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